

#### OVER 100 YEARS OF SUPERIOR SERVICE

Artesian Water Maryland A Artesian Wastewater Maryland

Via DelaFile July 16, 2019

Donna L. Nickerson, Secretary Delaware Public Service Commission 861 Silver Lake Boulevard Cannon Building, Suite 100 Dover, Delaware 19904

RE: CPCN Abandonment: 09-CPCN-33

Dear Ms. Nickerson:

The Artesian Water Company, Inc. ("AWC") requests the authority to abandon the responsibility to provide water service to certain tax parcels located in the area commonly known as the Town of Ellendale ("Town"). AWC intends to abandon its water Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN"), with all of the rights and obligations under current law for the following tax parcel numbers as described in Order 7696, Docket No. 09-CPCN-33 which was granted on December 22, 2009:

Tax Parcel Nos.:	230-26.00-30.00	230-31.00-40.10	230-31.00-143.00
	230-26.00-42.00	230-31.00-42.00	230-31.00-147.00
	230-26.00-63.00	230-31.00-61.00	230-31.00-147.01
	230-26.00-127.00	230-31.00-69.00	230-31.00-147.02
	230-31.00-40.05	230-31.00-141.00	230-31.00-147.03
	230-31.00-40.06	230-31.00-142.00	230-31.00-160.00

AWC is only seeking to abandon the tax parcels referenced above. All remaining tax parcels included in Order 7696 will remain in the Company's certificated water service territory. Attached as Exhibit A is a map showing the parcels to be abandoned.

Subsequent to the CPCN being granted in Docket No. 09-CPCN-33, tax parcel #'s 230-31.00-40.05 was subdivided to create a second tax parcel numbered 230-31.00-40.12. Since Artesian does not lose its CPCN rights and obligations once a property has been subdivided, the Company will is also include tax parcel number 230-31.00-40.12 in its abandonment request. Attached as Exhibit B are the Sussex County property records reflecting the parcel number changes.

AWC believes the abandonment is reasonable for the following reasons: (1) AWC does not currently provide water service to any of the tax parcels to be abandoned; (2) The abandonment is necessary because Sussex County ("County") passed Resolution No. R 015 18 establishing the Ellendale Water District ("Water District") so that the County could take the necessary steps to provide safe reliable drinking water to Town residents (See Exhibit C); (3) AWC and the Town entered into a Water Service Agreement ("Agreement") where AWC will sell water to County so that it can in turn provide water service to the Town (See Exhibit D); (4) As part of the Agreement, AWC agreed to abandon certain tax parcels so the County could obtain the CPCN rights for the Water District; (5) The abandonment will not be unduly disruptive to the present convenience and necessity because no existing AWC customers are located within the tax parcels to be abandoned.

On April 5, 2019 the County notified Town residents of the Water District Resolution and that the County would file an application with the Delaware Public Service Commission seeking the CPCN rights for properties located in the newly formed Water District. Attached as Exhibit E is copy of the notification that was delivered via certified mail to Water District residents.

Based on the information provided above, Artesian Water Company, Inc. requests expedited treatment for abandoning the listed tax parcels from its CPCN so that Sussex County can move forward with its CPCN application and begin to provide water service to the Town of Ellendale residents. If you should have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Scott Stephan at 302-453-6986.

Respectfully Submitted,

David B. Spacht,

Artesian Water Company, Inc.

Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

### AFFIDAVIT OF GENERAL COMPLIANCE

09-CPCN-33

0 200 400

1,200

# **EXHIBIT C**

### **RESOLUTION NO. R 015 18**

ELLENDALE WATER DISTRICT DECLARED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 9, CHAPTER 65 OF THE  $\underline{DELAWARE\ CODE}$ 

WHEREAS, the eligible voters of the proposed Ellendale Water District approved the creation of the water district by a vote of 81 to 21 in an election held on September 15, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Title 9, <u>Delaware Code</u>, Section 6507 requires the County Council to issue a determination of the water district within 12 months of its approval by the eligible voters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Council of Sussex County, Delaware hereby determines that the eligible voters of the Ellendale Water District have approved the creation of said district, that the description of the Ellendale Water District is described below; and that the said district is hereby declared to be validly constituted under the provisions of Title 9, Chapter 65 of the Delaware Code; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sussex County Council directs the County Engineer and the Attorney for the County Council to procure the necessary lands and rights-of-way by purchase, agreement or condemnation in accordance with the existing statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Engineer is hereby directed to prepare maps, plans, specifications and estimates, let contracts for and supervise the construction and maintenance of, or enlarging and remodeling of, any structures required to provide for the safe distribution of drinking water to all parcels in the water district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sussex County Council directs the County Finance Director and County Engineer to apply for, accept, and receive grants, loans, and other funding necessary to provide adequate financing for the planning, design, construction, and all other phases of the water district.

## **EXHIBIT E**

#### **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

**ADMINISTRATION** (302) 855-7718 AIRPORT & INDUSTRIAL PARK (302) 855-7774 **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** (302) 855-7730 **PUBLIC WORKS** (302) 855-7703 RECORDS MANAGEMENT (302) 854-5033 UTILITY ENGINEERING (302) 855-7717 UTILITY PERMITS (302) 855-7719 UTILITY PLANNING (302) 855-1299 FAX (302) 855-7799



### Sussex County

DELAWARE sussexcountyde.gov

HANS M. MEDLARZ, P.E. COUNTY ENGINEER

JOHN J. ASHMAN
DIRECTOR OF UTILITY PLANNING

March 21, 2019

XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX

Tax Map & Parcel: XXX-XXXX-XXXX

### Dear Property owner,

Sussex County Council established the voter approved Ellendale Water District in September 2018. Delaware State Law requires Sussex County Council to file for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to legally provide potable water service. You are receiving this letter as the process mandates notification to all landowners within the district.

County records list you as owner(s) of the property identified above which is in the established water district. This letter is to inform you that Sussex County will file an application according to Title 26 Del. C § 203C with Delaware Public Service Commission requesting issuance of a CPCN.

Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) has historic results from random sampling events documenting widespread evidence that the water quality in the District does not meet the Safe Drinking Water Act's, primary and secondary standards set for human consumption. Therefore, the County will be filing under the provisions of Title 26 Del. C § 203C (d)(2)a referencing the DHSS documentation.

Should you have any questions regarding this process please contact the Engineering Department at 302-855-7718 for assistance.

Sincerely,

Hans Medlarz P.E. Sussex County Engineer

